



U.S. Department of Justice

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For Immediate Release:

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EVENT: Sentencing

Defendant: Jerry Blewett

**DETROIT MAN SENTENCED TO 14 YEARS' IMPRISONMENT FOR
TWO SOUTHFIELD BANK ROBBERIES**

A 41-year-old Detroit man who robbed two LaSalle Bank branches in Southfield in October 2006 was sentenced to 165 months imprisonment in federal court today, United States Attorney Stephen J. Murphy announced. Joining in the announcement was FBI Special Agent-In-Charge Andrew G. Arena.

Jerry Blewett pled guilty to two counts of bank robbery before United States District Judge David M. Lawson on January 5, 2007. Blewett admitted that he stole more than \$5,000 from the following banks:

October 24, 2006 – LaSalle Bank, 29630 Southfield Rd., Southfield, Michigan – \$1,770

October 27, 2006 – LaSalle Bank, 24660 Southfield Rd., Southfield, Michigan – \$3,660

In each robbery, Blewett entered the bank and presented a demand note to the teller stating, "This is a hold up. Put all of your \$100s and \$50s on the counter now!!!" Blewett was

caught by Southfield Police Department officers fleeing the scene of the second robbery.

United States Attorney Stephen J. Murphy said, "Anyone contemplating a bank heist should take heed: the money is not great and the chances of being caught and getting a long prison sentence are tremendous. I applaud the outstanding cooperation between local and federal authorities which made this a short-lived crime spree."

Blewett was previously convicted of bank robbery in a federal district court in Minneapolis in October 1996 and again in December 2000. After serving 46 months imprisonment in a federal corrections institute in Wisconsin on the 2000 conviction, he was transferred to the Genesis House in Detroit. He was released on September 15, 2006 and was free for less than six weeks before robbing the LaSalle Bank branches.

Blewett is scheduled to appear before Judge Gerald E. Rosen on May 25, 2007 for a supervised release hearing in which he could face an additional two years imprisonment.

The case was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Leonid Feller.